

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Shipping Conditions in the Port of Gdynia 2. Movements and Cargoes of the POKOJ, HEL, NO. OF PAGES MAZURY and ELBLAG	DATE DISTR.	22 May 1953
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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1. Far more vessels than usual were tied up in the port of Gdynia. Some of the ships had been there since the beginning of January. The official explanation for this was that foreign ports were ice-bound, that there were storms at sea, etc. These explanations were not generally accepted, and it was believed by some that as a result of the unsettled world political situation, Polish seamen were refraining from accepting employment aboard ships of the Polish-Chinese line. Moreover, those ships in the harbor which required repairs could not undergo these repairs, since the shipyards were working at full capacity, principally for the Soviet Union.

2. The Polish ship MS POKOJ returned to Poland from China, after having called at Shanghai, Dairen, and Taku Bar. In these ports, the POKOJ encountered many vessels carrying goods and equipment for use by the Chinese in the Korean war.

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officers of the POKOJ are very much embittered by what they believe is the double standard of morality of the Western European countries; Polish vessels are forced to carry freight to China, but these men cannot understand what causes "free" countries to send their ships to China.

seamen serving on ships of the Polish-Chinese line have made the same complaint.

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3. Polish and Soviet ships loaded large quantities of purely military equipment are on the list of strategic commodities. Polish vessels such as the HEL, the MAZURY, and the ELBLAG have taken on cargoes of armored plate of the highest quality for use in the manufacture of tanks and artillery pieces; this armored plate had been declared to be scrap. One ship loaded several hundred tons of such

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-2-

scrap, and Soviet ships have also taken on similar cargoes. Polish ships bound for China have taken on strategic items which were then shipped directly to China. Smaller amounts of such items have also been picked up at Hamburg for shipment to Poland and to China, but Germany has begun shipping very questionable freight

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